

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action mailed January 8, 2008. In this Amendment, claims 5, 7-9, 20, 47, 51 and 53-60 are amended, claims 1-4, 6, 15-19, 21, 46 and 52 are canceled and 48-50 are unchanged. Following entry of this amendment, claims 5, 7-9, 20, 47-51 and 53-60 shall be pending.

In the Office Action, claims 51, 57 and 59 are objected to because of an informality, and claims 1, 5, 7-9, 20, 46-50, 52-56, 58 and 60 have been rejected based on prior art grounds. For the reasons set forth below, these rejections are hereby traversed.

I. CLAIM OBJECTION

The Examiner objected to claim 52 because of a typographical error. Claim 52 has been canceled and therefore it is requested that this objection be withdrawn.

The Examiner objected to a misnumbering of claims. The Examiner's renumbering of claims 59-61 as claims 58-60 is acknowledged.

Claims 51, 57 and 59 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Examiner is thanked for this allowance. These claims have been rewritten in independent form and therefore are believed to be allowable.

II. CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 1, 8-9, 20 and 58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,266,062 to *Rogers*. Claims 52-54 and 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,915,913 to *Greenlaw et al.* Claims 5, 7, 46-50, 55 and 60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being anticipated in various combinations by *Rogers*, U.S. Pat. No. 5,154,569 to *Eryou*, U.S. Pat. No. 5,020,169 to *Hamada et al.*, U.S. Pat. No. 5,372,339 to *Morgan*, U.S. Pat. No. 2,458,312 to *Stephen and Greenlaw*.

In an effort solely to expedite prosecution of this application, independent claims 1, 46 and 52 have been canceled and dependent claims 5, 7-9, 20, 47, 53-56, 58 and 60 have been appropriately amended to depend from allowable claims 51, 57 and 59. Additionally, previously withdrawn claims 2-6, 15-19 and 21 have been canceled. Hence, it is believed that all presently pending claims are in position for allowance. Therefore, it is requested that the Section 102 and Section 103 rejections be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that pending claims 5, 7-9, 20, 47-51 and 53-60 are now in condition for allowance. Hence an indication of allowability is hereby requested.

If for any reason direct communication with Applicants' attorney would serve to advance prosecution of this case to finality, the Examiner is cordially urged to call the undersigned attorney at the below listed telephone number.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be required in connection with this Amendment to deposit account No. 50-2809.

Respectfully submitted,

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